

CONFIDENTIAL
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

January 24, 1957

TO: The Secretary
THROUGH: S/S *C-77*
FROM: NEA - William M. Rountree
SUBJECT: Gifts for King Saud

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <i>J. Baum</i>	DATE <i>1/15/82</i>
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE	TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐	
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒	
RELEASE DENIED ☐	
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____	

Discussion:

We anticipate that King Saud will be bringing a gift or gifts for the President. In our telegrams to Ambassador Wadsworth we have stressed that the President does not traditionally exchange elaborate gifts with other foreign rulers.

We have also suggested the possibility of the King's contributing to an educational exchange fund which might be established as a memorial to the visit Sheikh Yusuf Yasin, the Saudi Arabian Deputy Foreign Minister, expressed interest in this, but we suspect that they will consider any such contributions to such educational exchange program in addition to traditional gifts.

We believe we must anticipate that the King will be bringing gifts and that we should be prepared to reciprocate in a fitting manner.

We will work actively on the possibility of suggesting to the King a program of educational exchange in lieu of an elaborate gift. We believe, however, that we should be prepared to present suitable modest gifts to the King in anticipation of gifts which he will undoubtedly present. In accordance with past custom, we believe gifts should be given by the President, the Vice President, and the Secretary.

We suggest the following gifts: from the President, a leather desk set with a letter opener appropriately inscribed. We believe this would be symbolic of their recent correspondence. From the Vice President, a Steuben glass bowl with the arms of the United States and Saudi Arabia appropriately engraved. From the Secretary, a high fidelity tape recorder in a fine wood cabinet.

Recommendation:

1. That you ^{sign} ~~approve~~ the attached memorandum to the President.
2. That you ^{sign} ~~approve~~ the attached memorandum to the Vice President.
3. That you authorize the expenditure of not to exceed \$2500 for appropriate gifts.

Approve *J. Baum* Disapprove _____

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Concurrences:

Mr. Carpenter
O - Mr. Henderson
U/PR - Mr. Conger

RM/R file

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Concurrences:

U/PR - *clear*

IES - Mr. Riley (in principle) *stop*

O - *Dwyer*

Attachments:

1. (Tab A) - Memorandum to President.
2. (Tab B) - Memorandum to Vice President.

Ro. Dr.
NEA:ME:DDNewsom:apg
1/23/57

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